

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

DATE: OCT. 24, 2014

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: SCOTT H. NEAL, CITY MANAGER

RE: FRIDAY REPORT FOR OCT. 24, 2014

FRIDAY REPORT



1. 2014 Elections Update – During the 2014 Elections, Edina Voters in three precincts will vote at a different location than they did in 2012. The following three precincts have moved polling locations: Edina Precinct 5 now votes at Good Samaritan Church, 5730 Grove St. – enter at the upper parking lot, voting will be taking place in the fellowship room. This precinct voted at Highland School previously and was moved due to construction in the summer. Edina Precinct 10 now votes at St. Albans Church, 6716 Gleason Road – enter the building from the door closest to the sanctuary and proceed down the hall to the fellowship hall. This precinct voted at Creek Valley School and was moved due to construction in the summer. Edina Precinct 14 now permanently will be voting at Edina Community Luther Church, 4113 W. 54th St. – park on both sides of West 54th Street and enter the Church from the front door. There is an entrance at the lower level with access to an elevator for voters with any mobility problems. The City formerly was at St. Peter’s Church. For voters in Edina Precinct 18, City staff has worked with the Edinborough Corporate Center to set aside 14 “Voter Parking Places” immediately adjacent to the east of the door voters should use to enter the polling location. Look for a large banner “Vote Here Today.” Once inside Edinborough Park, voters may use either the stairs or elevator to proceed to the “Great Hall” where the voting takes place.
2. Development Update – The City has received two significant development applications. The first is the request for final rezoning to build the proposed Aurora on France project, a 195 unit, five-story senior housing and care center at 6500 France Ave. The development would include a skyway connection to the Fairview Hospital parking ramp. The second request is for a comprehensive plan amendment and preliminary rezoning to build a 160 unit, five-story apartment building with 20,000 square feet of retail space at 7200 France Ave. The Planning Commission is tentatively scheduled to hold a public hearing on both these requests on Nov. 12, with the City Council hearing to follow on Dec. 2.
3. 50th & France Parking – City staff recently held an open house to solicit input about the new parking permit regulations at 50th & France. Three common themes were identified by employees and managers at 50th & France: (1) request additional 40 to 60 stalls on the rooftop of the South Ramp designated for employees or customers on a first-come-first-served basis; (2) issue packets of ten daily parking permits for \$10 to allow temporary employees or long term guests to park in long-term parking stalls in all ramps; (3) increase police patrols in the ramps during nighttime closing hours to enhance public safety. I would like Council Members to give some thought to these possible policy changes so that we can have a discussion about them at the Nov. 3 City Council meeting.
4. White Oaks – Barr Engineering has completed the water level monitoring of the low areas associated with the White Oaks Neighborhood Flood Protection and Water Quality Study. Over the next couple months they will update the storm water model in that area to better match the measured hydraulic characteristics. We will then begin to discuss ideas on possible improvements.

5. Golf Update – The Braemar Golf Dome will open Saturday, Nov. 1. Richard Mandell just completed his second site visit. He met with the Braemar Golf Course Master Plan Task Force, staff and environmental agencies and is well into the conceptual stage of planning. The Master Plan should be completed by the spring of 2015. He also began inventory and analysis for the Braemar Golf Course Tree Management Report. This report will be completed by the summer of 2015.
6. Fall Into The Arts – Michael Frey was named Executive Director of the Fall into the Arts Festival on Thursday, Oct. 23 by the Edina Crime Prevention Executive Committee, and was also invited to join the board.
7. Residential Redevelopment – Staff have granted 112 residential demolition permits in 2014. As of Oct. 21, 2013, we had granted 89 permits. In 2013, we issued a total of 120 demolition permits. So far this week, we have received 7 new applications.
8. Fall 2014 Town Hall Meeting – The Fall 2014 Town Hall Meeting will be held from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 5 at the Edina Senior Center.
9. Online Utility Payments – Nearly four percent of our 15,000-plus Edina utility customers have now registered for paperless eBills on our new eUtility Billing website, saving the City the cost of mailing paper bills to these customers. If this trend continues, we should have ten percent of our customers registered for online access to their utility accounts by the end of 2015. Nearly \$750,000 in online payments have been collected since we rolled out the site to the public, about ten months ago.
10. Halloween – From 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24, Edinborough Park will host its Annual “Not So Scary” Halloween Party. This family friendly event is for kids of all ages and usually attracts several hundred participants. Activities include mask making, a magic/comedy show, games, trick or treating and more. The cost is \$9 plus tax per child; adults are free. Costumes are encouraged!

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